

Side 1

- 005 Speaking by interviewer begins.
- 007 Guest is Judge J.T. Fraser, Sr.
- 010 Fraser begins speaking - He arrived in Eureka in the summer of 1889 and began working for the Ricks Water Company two days later, laying water pipes from Eureka to Elk River.
- 017 Sam Shovelton was in charge of the pipe laying  
Perry Connor was foreman of the ditch crew.
- 027 Sam McCornick ?, a co-worker of Fraser's, worked for the water company for 25-30 years.
- 035 After working for the Ricks Water Company in 1889 and 1890, Fraser "worked in the woods" for the Dolbeer - Carson Lumber Company.
- 038 Hop Christy was the foreman.
- 040 Fraser joined Professor Owens singing class.
- 050 In the class Fraser met Charlie Langford, who offered Fraser a job in Langford's Brothers Boiler Shop. Tom Langford was in charge of the shop, and offered Fraser a job using a sledge. Fraser, for several years, worked in the boiler shop in the winter and for the lumber company in the woods in springtime.
- 069 One spring Fraser was offered a year-round job in the boiler shop, which he accepted and kept for nine years.
- 072 In 1891 and 1892, when Eureka was in an economic recession, Fraser worked for Hugh Woodcock and Frank Thomas, building roads to Del Norte County.
- 078 The road extended only to Prairie Creek, beyond which there was no road.
- 081 From November 1892 until the following May, Fraser worked on the roads.
- 087 Interviewer speaks again and asks Fraser about a tunnel from Prairie Creek to the ocean.
- 090 A mining company had built a tunnel, still in existence, from Prairie Creek to the ocean.
- 104 The mining company intended to dam Prairie Creek to divert the tunnel into the tunnel.
- 097 Description of the tunnel.
- 108 The tunnel was never used.
- 113 Description of the Johnson Trading Post at the Del Norte County line.
- 120 Mrs. Johnson found \$80 worth of gold on the beach and scooped it up into her apron before the tide carried it out to sea.



## OLD TIMER SERIES

## Interviews with Judge Fraser

Side 1

- 137 Mr. Fraser mentions old Eureka residents he had known.
- 143 Story about William Carson, swamper Charley Hitchings, and the bull punchers.
- 162 Description of the bull punching.
- 168 Encounter between William Carson and a bull puncher.
- 179 J.B. Brown was a school teacher and Superintendent of Schools.  
Description of Mr. Brown.
- 187 Mention of other Humboldt County old timers.
- 190 Fraser was president of the school board.
- 194 George Albee handled school financial affairs and raised \$90,000.00 for a manual training school.
- 200 A Committee to Reduce Taxation was formed in 1930-31. The committee used the \$90,000 for their tax reduction effort instead of for the manual training school.
- 204 When the manual training school was finally built, money had to be borrowed for it at 4% interest.
- 210 Further description of George Albee, after whom the stadium at Eureka's High School is named.
- 220 Frank Graham of Riverside purchased 160 acres of timber land and then made \$30,000 - \$40,000 profit from it.
- 238 Fraser's wife was born at Fairhaven December 1, 1874. Her father had four scows, one 60' by 20', with which he transported lumber and shingles to ships.
- 245 Description of how Fraser's wife's family moved by scow to Eureka, where they had purchased a house at Summer and Washington Streets. At that time the railroad didn't yet exist.
- 255 Fraser was celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary at the month of the interviewer.
- 259 Congratulations extended from the interviewer.
- 269 In 1906 Fraser's planned vacation trip was delayed a month by the San Francisco earthquake. They then traveled to Nova Scotia, where they stayed until October.
- 270 Mrs. Fraser weighed 116 pounds when they left San Francisco, and 145 when they returned.



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- 276 They arrived at the New Glasgow Depot, intending to continue on to Philadelphia, Fraser's brother met them at the depot.
- 282 There was no train service on Sundays.
- 285 Fraser traveled to Philadelphia and spent 10 days there.
- 294 Interviewer speaks - records were given to the old timers appearing on the Old Timers Series program. The Harvey M. Harper Company, sponsor of the radio Old-Timer shows, provided the records.
- 300 The KIEM radio interviewer thanks Fraser for appearing.
- 301 Fraser jokes that he should be given a new car, since he had driven the same cars for about 20 years.
- 303 Speaking ends.
- 305 Speaking begins - Judge Fraser is back for another radio show.
- 306 Fraser will be speaking about early local sheriff Mack Brown.
- 308 Fraser speaks - Sheriff Brown had come to the area at the time Klamath County was divided into Humboldt, Del Norte and Siskiyou counties.
- 315 Brown settled at Sawyer's Bar before coming to Humboldt County.
- 320 Recounting of Fraser's encounter with a woman who had known Mack Brown. Description of early cemetery with carved wooden headstones.
- 336 Description of Mack Brown.
- 340 Telling of story of the time when Mack Brown had Hugh Woodcock deliver a box of children's clothing by stagecoach.
- 360 Harry Hitchings, Brown's son-in-law, was the Eureka Chief of Police.
- 363 Recounting of a story about a murder committed on Second Street. The killer went into his room in the Eagle House and threatened to kill the first person to try to come through the door. Mack Brown went to the room and talked the killer into letting him in and then into surrendering his gun and accompanying him to the jail.
- 378 Fraser expresses regret that no writer, such as L.K. Wood, had written the history of those early pioneers.
- 379 Description of Richard Sweazy, early businessman who owned sailing vessels and grocery stores and was president of the water company.
- 385 Account of the sinking of the sailing vessel. The Fidelity in 1890.
- 395 John Thompson, who lived near Washington and California Street, had been hired by Sweazy as First Mate for the Fidelity. Instead, Thompson got another man to take his place, without notifying Sweazy that he was doing so. When Sweazy heard that the ship had been lost, he rode in his buggy to notify Thompson's wife.

Side 1 ends here.



Side 2

- 004 (Continuation of story from Side 1)  
 Sweazy was met at the door by Thompson himself, whom Sweazy believed lost on the ship. Sweazy was quite relieved to see his good friend Thompson alive.
- 012 Sweazy was strongly opposed to smoking and drinking whisky.
- 016 Fraser had laid the main water pipe near Winship School.
- 020 Account of the incident between Fraser, Sweazy and the boy who smoked and didn't heat the lead hot enough for the pipe joints.
- 036 Description of Dolly Chamberlain, wife of J.D.H. Chamberlain. She was an expert on early Humboldt County History.
- 050 Dolly Chamberlain had a large locked book telling the history of early Humboldt County residents. When she became ill she gave the book to Fraser, who was executor of her will. She instructed Fraser to burn the book, without opening it, upon her death,
- 067 Fraser was a Judge of the Justice Court, at I and 4th Street, across from the Oman Hardware Store.
- 071 J.A. Armstrong was constable.
- 075 Fraser burned the book without opening it, but did cut off the brass lock, which he kept.
- 082 Dolly Chamberlain taught Elocution.
- 085 Mrs. Chamberlain taught Mr. Echland's son to stop stuttering. The son later went to West Point, graduated with honors, to become a Commander in the Navy in WW I, about 1916.
- 110 Fraser laments the loss of much of the information concerning early Humboldt County history.
- 121 Radio announcer states that KIEM radio records all the Old Timer Series interviews, then makes a 12-inch record of the interview to give to the guest. Tapes of the interviews were to be given to the Historical Society.
- 132 The announcer thanks Judge Fraser for appearing.
- 137 Fraser speaks briefly
- 139 Speaking ends.